CANUCK LAW

Reporting That You're Not Getting Elsewhere (Do Your Own Research To Verify)

FEBRUARY 6, 2020 BY RONNIE

Getting Started With Your Own Research, Investigative Journalism

Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada
Canada.ca | Services | Departments | Français
Library and Archives Canada
Canada
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Search
Discover the Collection
Search the Collection
Services for the Public
Services and programs
Home
As the custodian of our distant past and recent history, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is a key resource for all Canadians who wish to gain a better understanding of who they are, individually and collectively. LAC acquires, processes, preserves and provides access to our documentary heritage and serves as the continuing memory of the Government of Canada and its institutions.
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COVID-19 Situation – March 22 Update to LAC Staff
[2020-03-22 11:30]
COVID-19 Situation – March 18 Update to LAC Staff
[2020-03-18 20:00]
COVID-19 – Closures, cancellations and services
[2020-03-17 15:45]

Ever wonder how it is certain exposes come to creation? Are you longing to create something that dives beyond the surface? Well, for Canadians, this list is a place to start. These are some of the main places that this website uses to generate its articles.

For an interesting guide from a decade ago, check this out: https://bookleteer.com/book.html?id=930&#page/2/mode/1up

1. Previous Solutions Offered

A response that frequently comes up is for people to ask what to do about it. Instead of just constantly pointing out what is wrong, some constructive suggestions should be offered. This section contains a list of proposals that, if implemented, would benefit society. While the details may be difficult to implement, at least they are a starting point.

2. Media Bias, Lies, Omissions And Corruption

Truth is essential in society, but the situation in Canada is worse than people imagine. In Canada (and elsewhere), the mainstream media, periodicals, and fact-checkers are subsidized, though they deny it. Post Media controls most outlets in Canada, and many "independents" have ties to Koch/Atlas. Real investigative journalism is needed, and some pointers are provided.

3. Why People Should Care About This

To anyone looking to get into citizen journalism, or otherwise expose the truth about our world, here are some basic tips on how to do so. This is a how-to article on those potential online sleuths.

Topics such as: the true scale of immigration into Canada; demographic replacement; loss of Christian roots; the loss of culture and heritage in favour of "multiculturalism"; the costs of globalized trade; globohomo; Islam; the people spreading Islam; the international banking cartel (BIS); the scale of debts; pension ponzi schemes; border security; forced multiculturalism; corruption in politics; internationalism; widespread human right abuses; trafficking; and a host of other issues are swept away. They are given little to no attention.

The goals of MSM, generally are:

- (a) To only tell part of the story
- (b) To divert your attention from another story
- (c) Both (a) and (b)

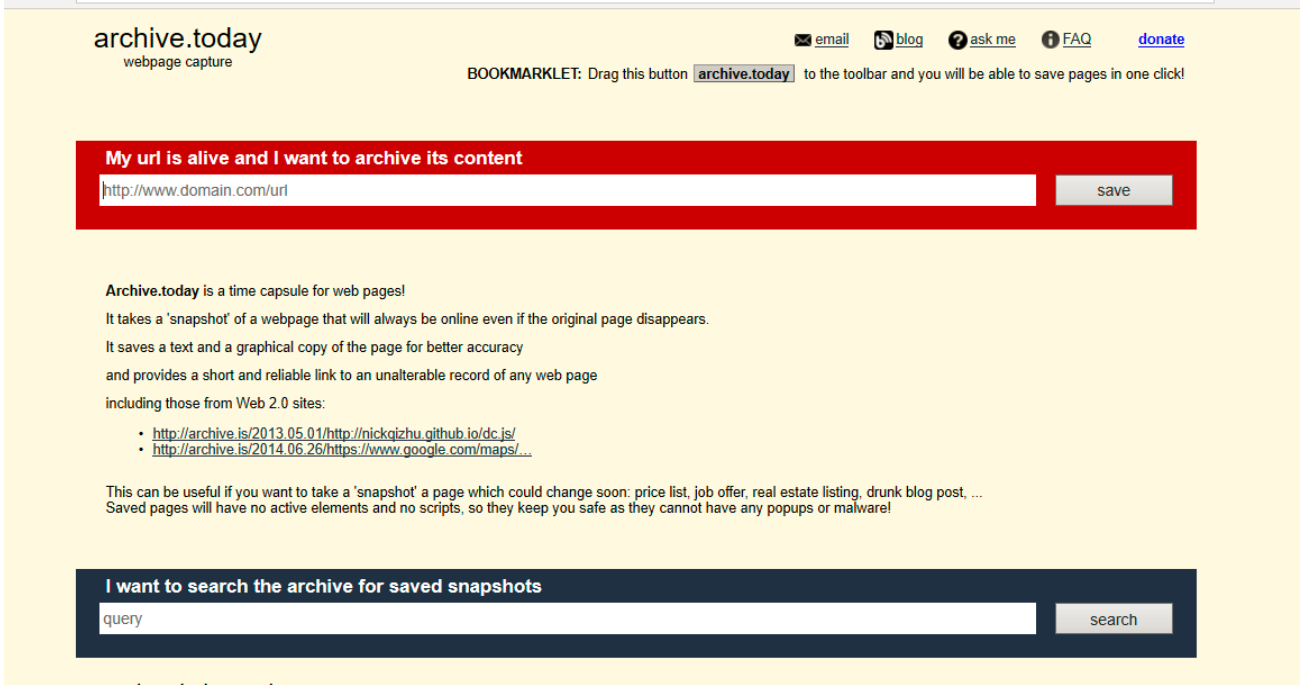
Unfortunately, our media is full of grifters and shills with an agenda. Almost the entire mainstream media is controlled by one outlet: Post Media. Even the so-called “alternative media” can’t be relied on to be truthful. The Post Millennial, True North Canada, Spencer Fernando, and Rebel Media are among the “independents” with an agenda. What Canada needs, (and the world at large) needs, is people willing to take the plunge and research for themselves.

While commentators — online pundits — are a dime a dozen, true researchers are rare. Any Tom, Dick or Harry can give their opinion on someone else’s work. The real challenge is creating the original work. Right, no bias here.

Yes, some of the techniques will seem painfully obvious, but are worth going through. Note: there are no shortcuts in this line of work. It’s just patience, perseverance, and luck. Red pill yourself, and share your findings with the world.

If even one reader of the article decides to pursue this path, then it is all worthwhile.

4. Tip: Save & Archive Evidence


archive.today
webpage capture
email
blog
ask me
FAQ
donate
BOOKMARKLET: Drag this button archive.today to the toolbar and you will be able to save pages in one click!
My url is alive and I want to archive its content
http://www.domain.com/url
save
Archive.today is a time capsule for web pages!
It takes a 'snapshot' of a webpage that will always be online even if the original page disappears.
It saves a text and a graphical copy of the page for better accuracy
and provides a short and reliable link to an unalterable record of any web page
including those from Web 2.0 sites:
http://archive.is/2013.05.01/http://nickqizhu.github.io/dc.js/
http://archive.is/2014.06.26/https://www.google.com/maps/...
This can be useful if you want to take a 'snapshot' a page which could change soon: price list, job offer, real estate listing, drunk blog post, ...
Saved pages will have no active elements and no scripts, so they keep you safe as they cannot have any popups or malware!
I want to search the archive for saved snapshots
query
search

Taking screenshots of the proof you have is always a great idea. As a picture, it speaks for itself, and demonstrates what you want to show. Also, it doubles as a powerful form of

evidence, should you ever get challenged on your work.

A secondary option is to archive the entire webpage you are quoting from. One such option is http://archive.is, which is shown above. There are a few reasons. First, you may get questioned about the authenticity of your work, even the screenshots. But as a practical matter, a few years later, the website may not exist, or the URL may have changed. Best to keep a backup handy. Admittedly this can be tedious, but beats having your sources disappear.

Another common archiving site is the Waybackmachine, which can be found at http://web.archive.org/. Either will do the job.

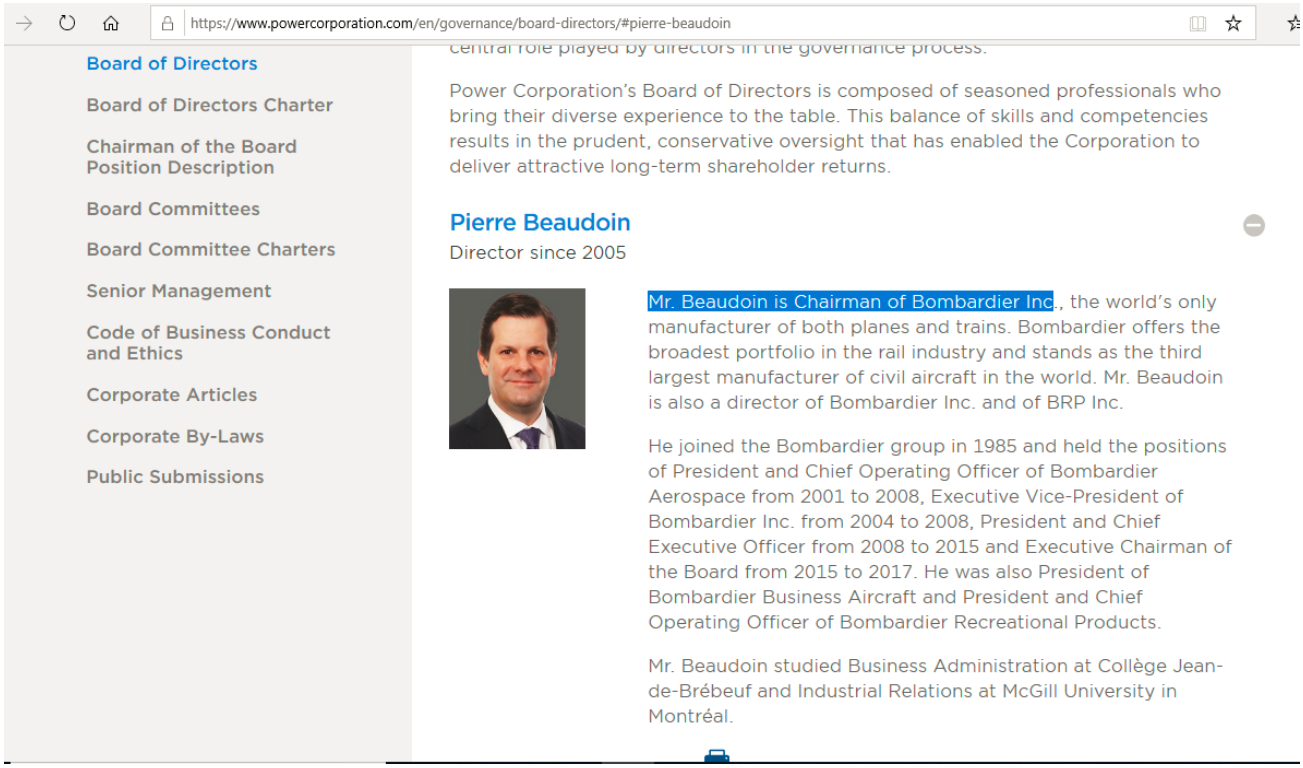
Now, let's get into some actual techniques.

5. Look Using Simple Search Engines

This is a no-brainer to many. See what others have published on the subject. It may save you from having to reinvent a thousand wheels if you come across an article. Google, Bing, Yahoo, DuckDuckGo, etc… will all suffice. If nothing else, it will be a good place to start, and you may hit gold. Make sure to check the links and references put in whatever you find. (Please give the original author credit for their work).

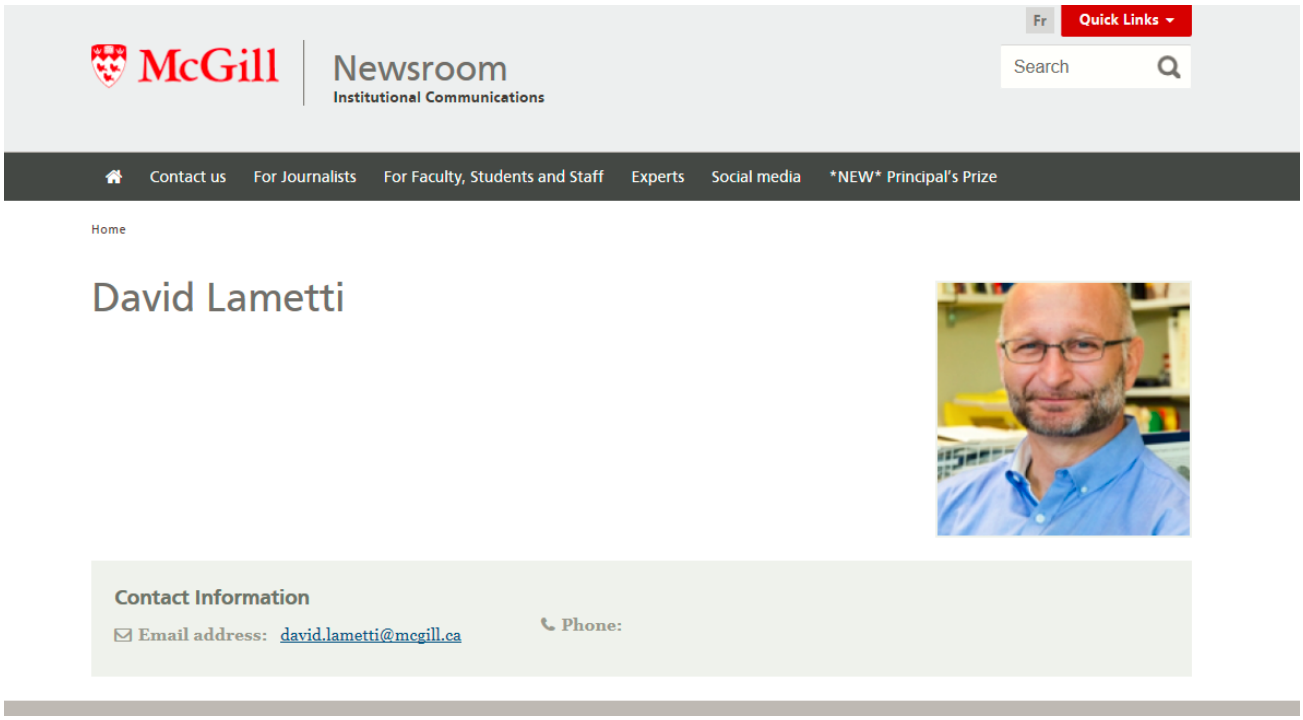
The other techniques are not universally applicable, but use them according to the particular circumstances of your research. Here they are, in no particular order.

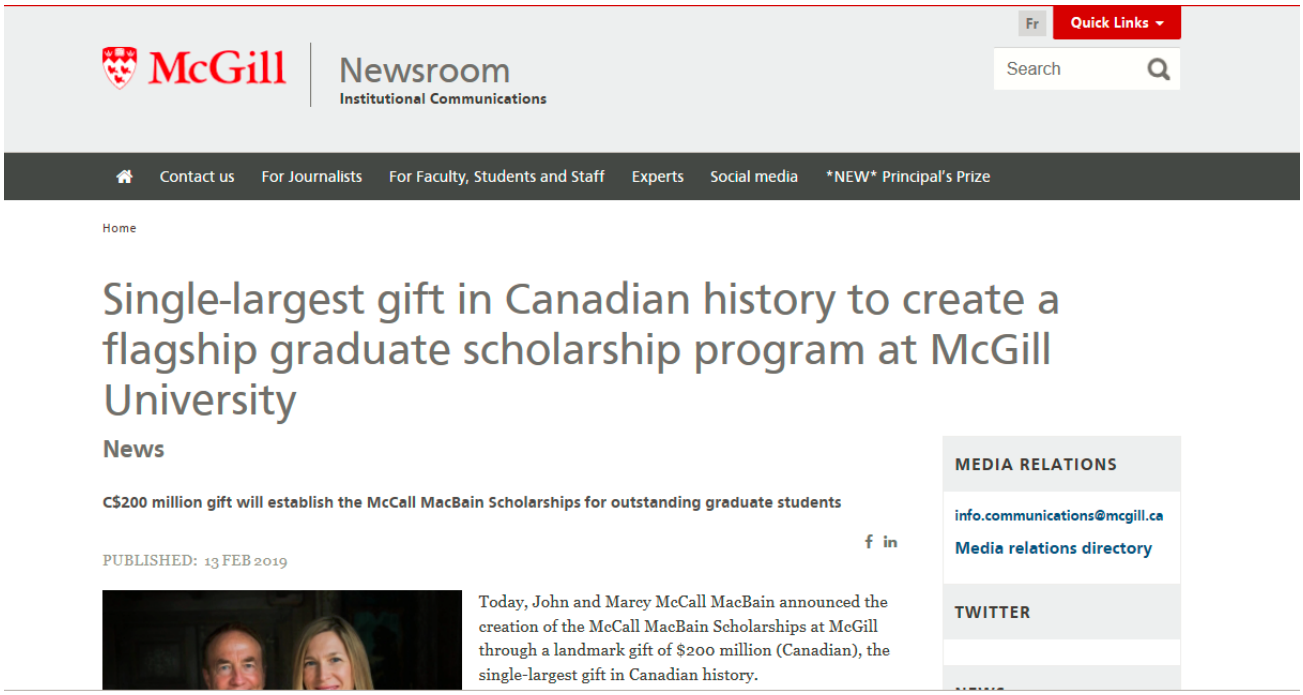
6. Look Up Directors, Executives


https://www.powercorporation.com/en/governance/board-directors/#pierre-beaudoin
Board of Directors
Board of Directors Charter
Chairman of the Board Position Description
Board Committees
Board Committee Charters
Senior Management
Code of Business Conduct and Ethics
Corporate Articles
Corporate By-Laws
Public Submissions
central role played by directors in the governance process.
Power Corporation's Board of Directors is composed of seasoned professionals who bring their diverse experience to the table. This balance of skills and competencies results in the prudent, conservative oversight that has enabled the Corporation to deliver attractive long-term shareholder returns.
Pierre Beaudoin
Director since 2005
Mr. Beaudoin is Chairman of Bombardier Inc., the world's only manufacturer of both planes and trains. Bombardier offers the broadest portfolio in the rail industry and stands as the third largest manufacturer of civil aircraft in the world. Mr. Beaudoin is also a director of Bombardier Inc. and of BRP Inc.
He joined the Bombardier group in 1985 and held the positions of President and Chief Operating Officer of Bombardier Aerospace from 2001 to 2008, Executive Vice-President of Bombardier Inc. from 2004 to 2008, President and Chief Executive Officer from 2008 to 2015 and Executive Chairman of the Board from 2015 to 2017. He was also President of Bombardier Business Aircraft and President and Chief Operating Officer of Bombardier Recreational Products.
Mr. Beaudoin studied Business Administration at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf and Industrial Relations at McGill University in Montréal.

Yes, you can look up information on a particular company. There are various ways to do that. A simpler approach may be just to see who ***RUNS*** the company, and if they have any interesting connections. In this case, we see that Pierre Beaudoin, the Chairman of Bombardier is also a Director at Power Corporation, owned by the Desmarais Family. One might wonder if this is the reason (or a reason), that we keep using taxpayer money to bail out Bombardier.

7. Look Up Data From Website




McGill
Newsroom
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Fr
Quick Links
Search
Contact us
For Journalists
For Faculty, Students and Staff
Experts
Social media
NEW Principal's Prize
Home
Single-largest gift in Canadian history to create a flagship graduate scholarship program at McGill University
News
C$200 million gift will establish the McCall MacBain Scholarships for outstanding graduate students
PUBLISHED: 13 FEB 2019
Today, John and Marcy McCall MacBain announced the creation of the McCall MacBain Scholarships at McGill through a landmark gift of $200 million (Canadian), the single-largest gift in Canadian history.
MEDIA RELATIONS
info.communications@mcgill.ca
Media relations directory
TWITTER

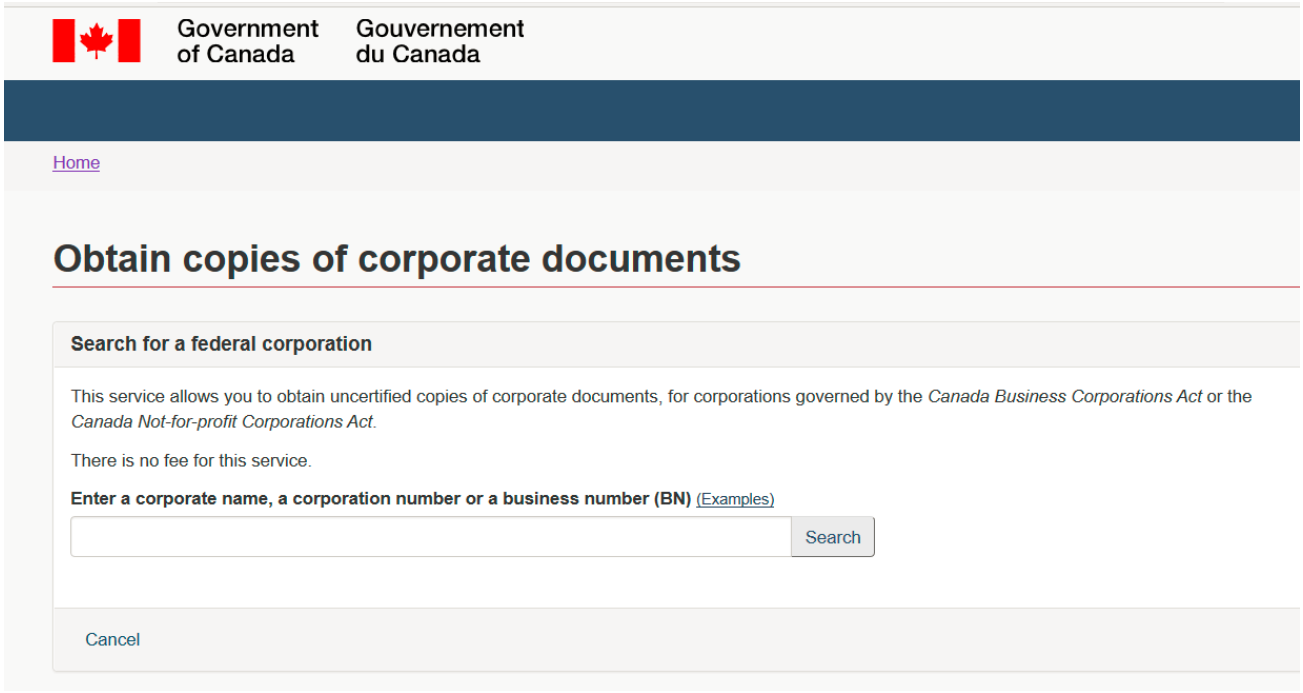
Items such as annual financial statements, people joining the company, or major announcements may be posted on the organization website. And this does not only apply to corporations.

For example, McGill University announced a $200M gift from John McCall MacBain. He is a Trudeau Lobbyist, a member of the Trudeau Foundation, and head of the McCall MacBain Foundation.

The McGill website also shows that the Attorney General of Canada, David Lametti, is a member of the Faculty of Law, currently on leave. All of this information was provided by McGill.

One would have to wonder if that $200M donation is the reason Lametti ensured that SNC Lavalin got its deferred prosecution agreement.

8. Corporations Canada Website

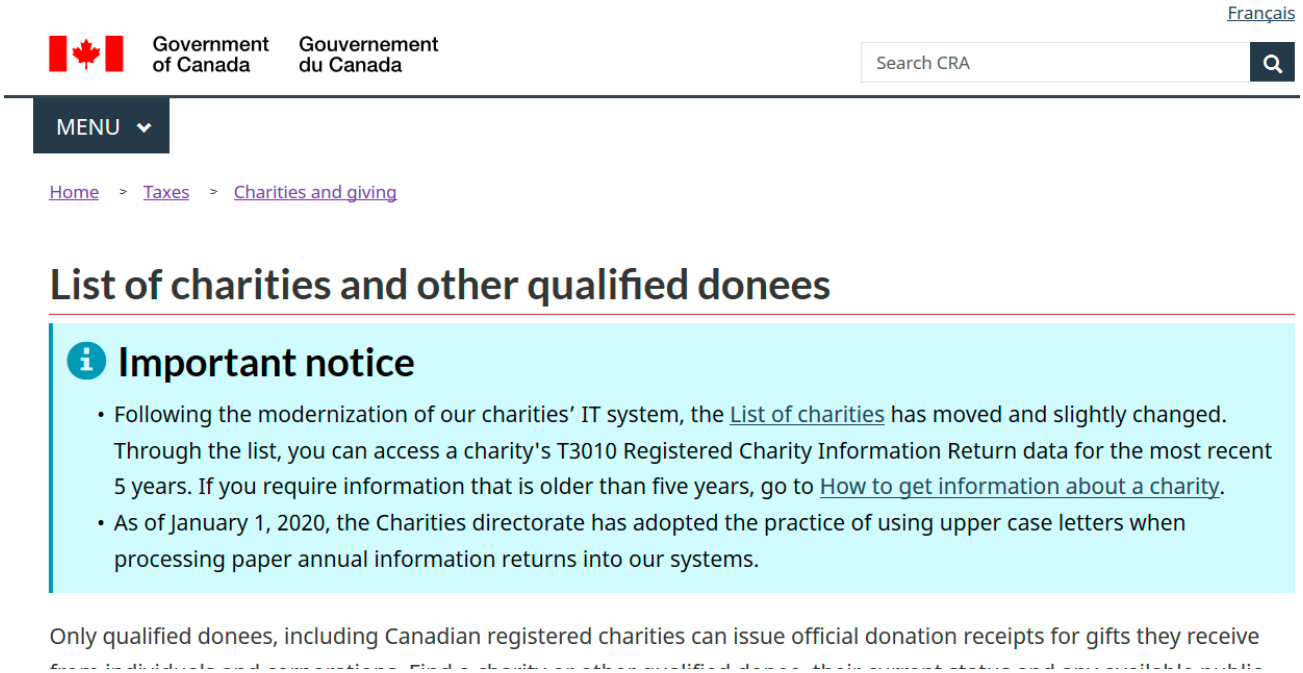

Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada
Home
Obtain copies of corporate documents
Search for a federal corporation
This service allows you to obtain uncertified copies of corporate documents, for corporations governed by the Canada Business Corporations Act or the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act.
There is no fee for this service.
Enter a corporate name, a corporation number or a business number (BN) (Examples)
Search
Cancel

If you want to know more about a business or non-profit, Corporations Canada can help with that. You can obtain information on the Directors, by-laws, registered office, or confirm that returns have been filed. Several years worth of data is available for free. You make the application, and within minutes, are emailed a series of attachments to download.

Some information can be obtained for free. Other data will involve paying fees. The choice is up to you.

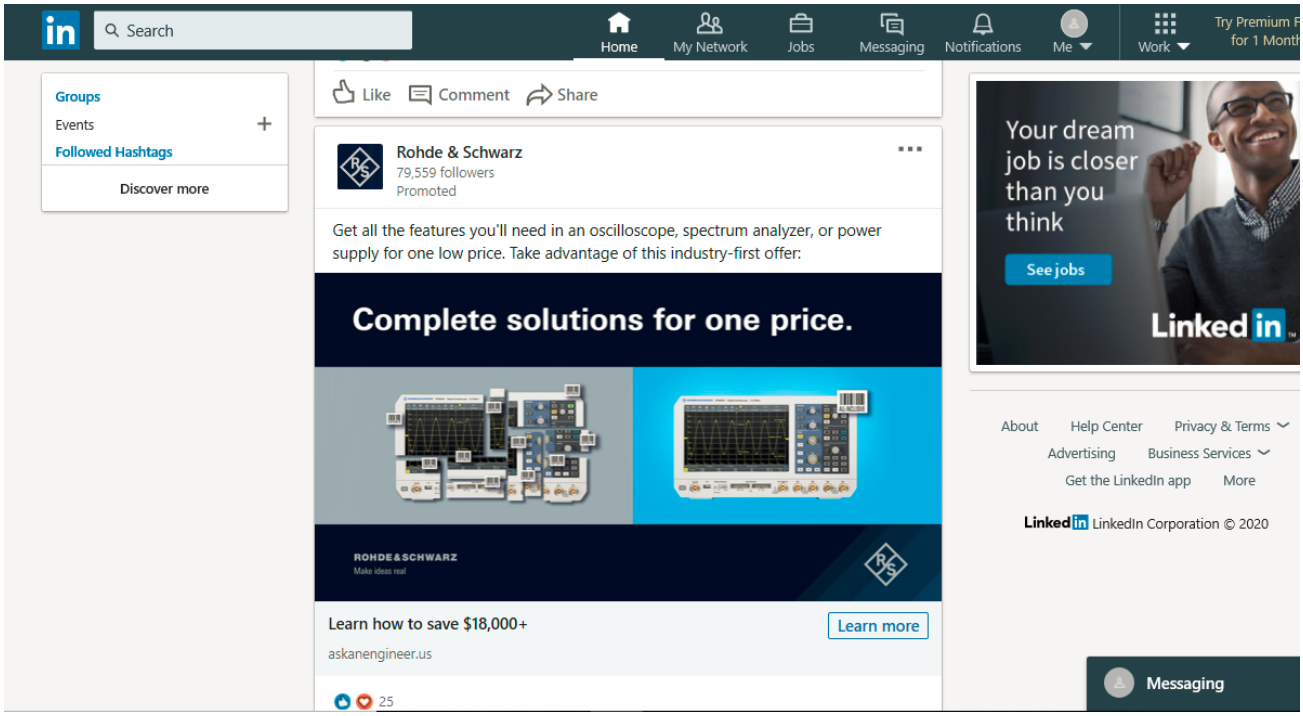
Note: Obviously this applies to companies registered in Canada. The United States, and many other nations have similar options.

9. Charities And Other Donees


Français
Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada
Search CRA
MENU
Home > Taxes > Charities and giving
List of charities and other qualified donees
Important notice
• Following the modernization of our charities' IT system, the List of charities has moved and slightly changed. Through the list, you can access a charity's T3010 Registered Charity Information Return data for the most recent 5 years. If you require information that is older than five years, go to How to get information about a charity.
• As of January 1, 2020, the Charities directorate has adopted the practice of using upper case letters when processing paper annual information returns into our systems.
Only qualified donees, including Canadian registered charities can issue official donation receipts for gifts they receive

If you are looking into a charity, or a group that falls into some other categories, the Canada Revenue Agency may be of use. Basic information can be obtained, including the Directors, the use of the charity, the revenue, and recent changes. It was a help finding out where True North Center actually originated from.

10. LinkedIn, Other Social Media

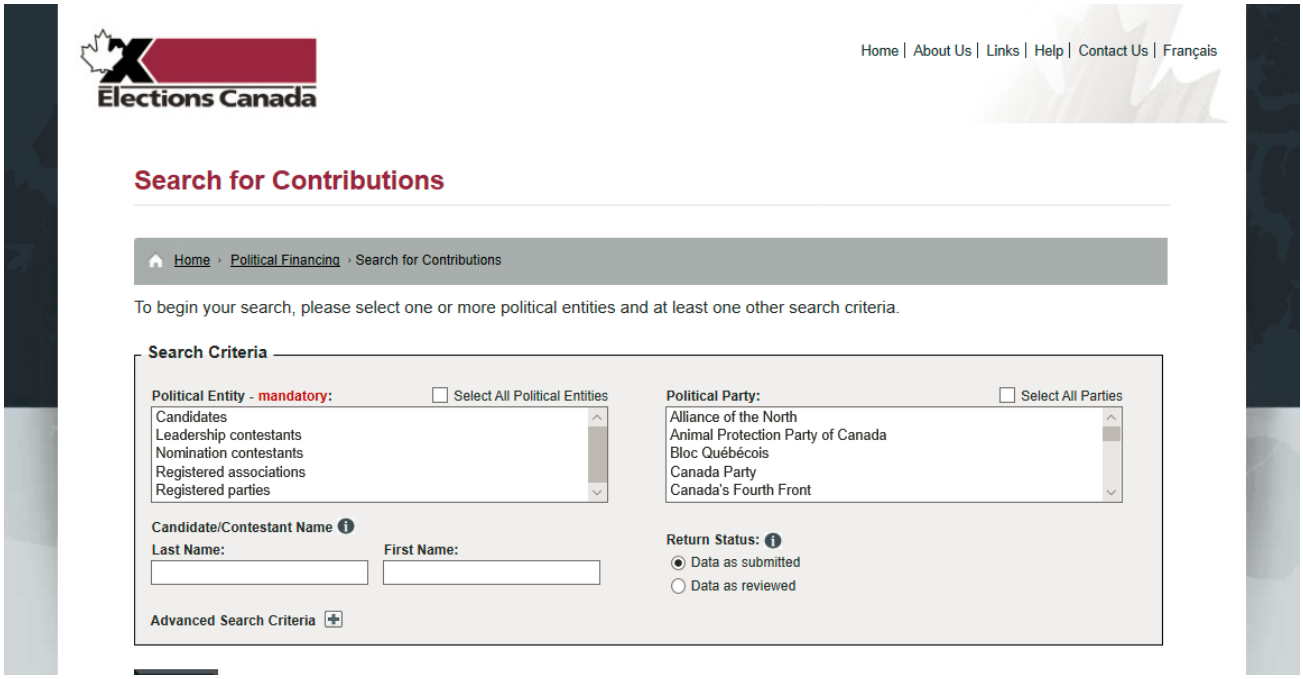


Yes, people put stupid stuff online. It doesn't have to be smoking pot, or topless photos in order to be helpful. For example, should you want to look into someone such as the CEO for an apparently independent media outlet, you can see what other organizations the person is connected to.

Furthermore, even if such accounts are altered or deleted, there is typically a copy or a partial copy somewhere. So don't despair.

Now, to get into the more legal and/or political matters, the next few tricks will help immensely. While it is directed at Federal matters, the same principles apply Provincially and Municipally.

11. Check Campaign Contributions



While donating (within the limits) to political parties and politicians is allowed, it does create a nice paper trail. As such, you may be able to see who has donated to whom, how much, and how often. Of course, this doesn't work when donations are given in cash under the table.

It should be pointed out, that some provinces (like Ontario) allow 3rd party donations. Essentially, that is an almost unlimited amount that is funnelled through an intermediary. Worth looking into. You want to know who the politician really serves.

Spoiler: it's not you.

12. Check Lobbying Commissioner's Office

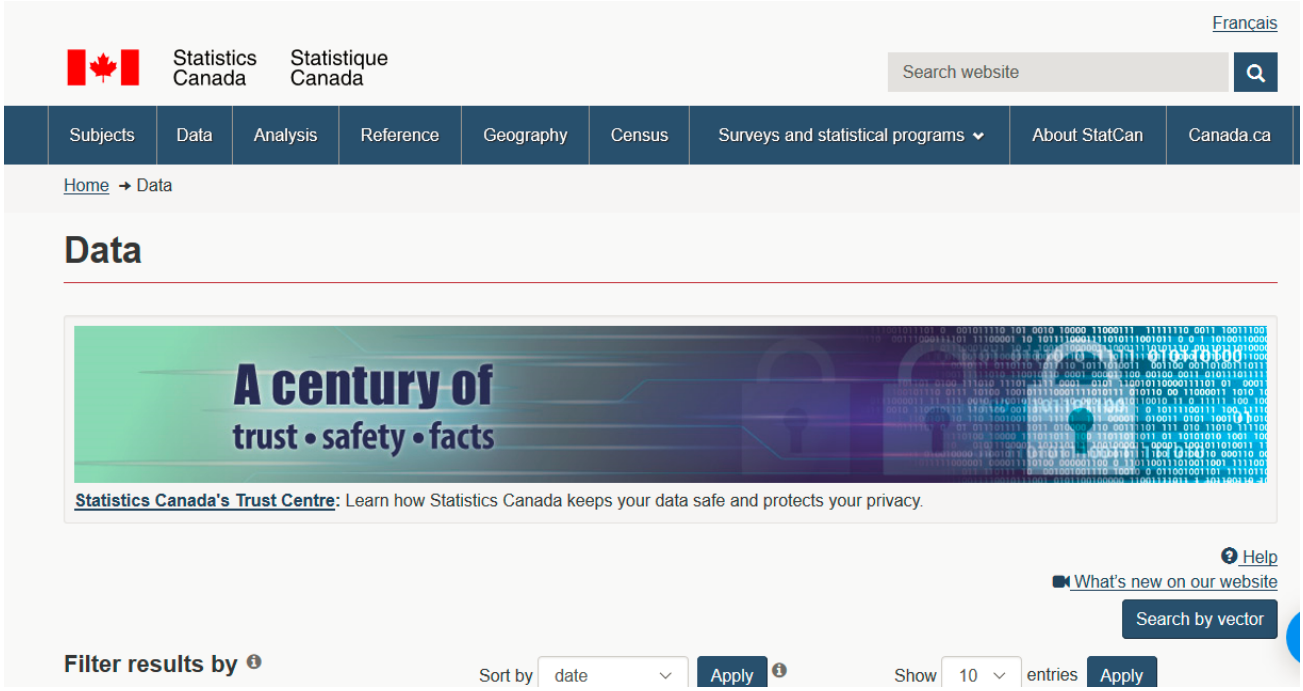
Office of the Commissioner of Lobbying of Canada
Commissariat au lobbying du Canada
Office of the Commissioner of Lobbying of Canada
Français
Home
Contact Us
Help
Search
canada.ca
Home
About Us
Lobbying Act
Lobbyists' Code of Conduct
Registry of Lobbyists
Reports and Publications
Parliamentary activities
Access to information
Proactive Disclosure
Lobbying in Canada
Free and open access to government is a matter of public interest.
Lobbying is a legitimate activity that must be done transparently. The activities of paid lobbyists are reported in the Registry of lobbyists.
Registry of lobbyists
Login or create an account
Search the registry
View reports and statistics
Nancy Bélanger
About the Commissioner of lobbying
Tweets by @OCL_CAL

Influence peddling can be a full time business for lobbyists. So, let's see who they have been meeting with. One such case is SNC Lavalin lobbying pretty much everyone for its DPA over the last few years. It can be truly disgusting to see just how deep some of this goes. Naturally, why would companies spend all this money on lobbyists unless they got results?

Go through the site for a while. The amount of lobbying that goes on in government is absolutely sickening. Keeps lobbyists employed though.

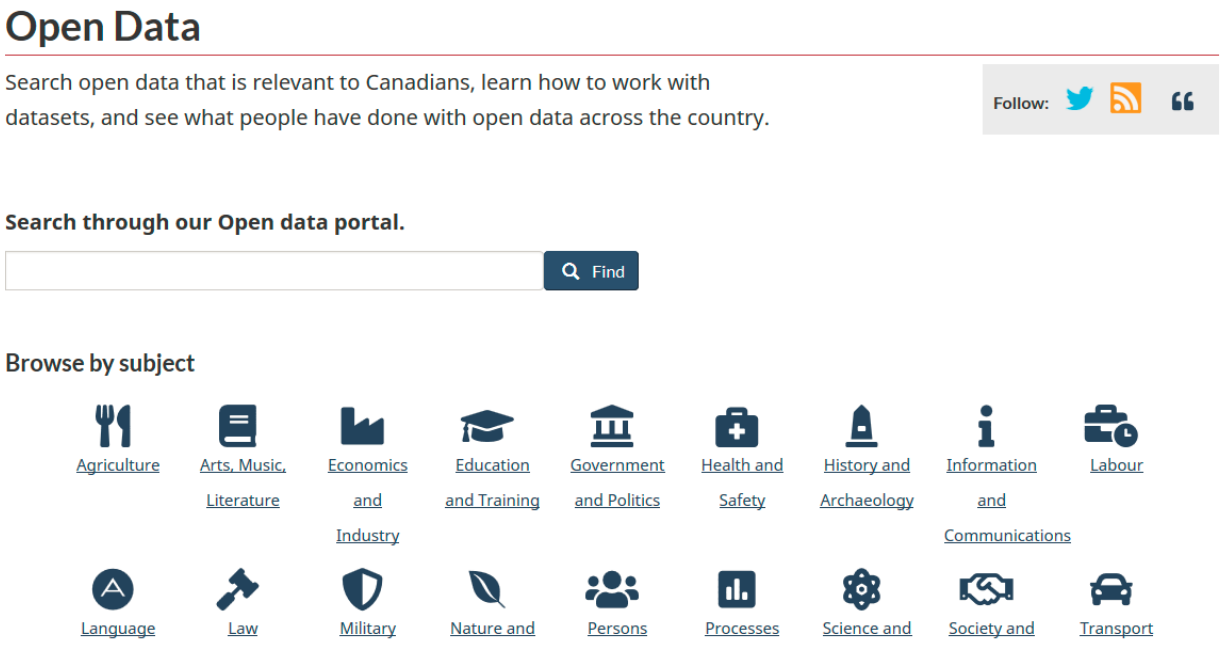
(a) https://lobbycanada.gc.ca/app/secure/ocl/lrs/do/advSrch
(b) https://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/app/secure/orl/lrs/do/guest
(c) https://www.albertalobbyistregistry.ca/
(d) https://www.sasklobbyistregistry.ca/
(e) http://www.lobbyistregistrar.mb.ca/i
(f) http://lobbyist.oico.on.ca/Pages/Public/PublicSearch/Default.aspx

13. Statistics Canada



They say there are lies, damn lies, and statistics. And that is certainly true, although StatsCan can at least give some official numbers for researchers to work with. It has the added benefit of being relatively free of government/political spin.

14. Open Data



Another government source for hard data focused, but still a good source of information. Keep in mind, it's only as reliable as the people entering the information in.

(a) https://open.canada.ca/en/maps/open-data-canada
(b) https://search.open.canada.ca/en/gc/
(c) https://www.data.gov.bc.ca/

15. Library & Archives Canada

Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada
Canada.ca | Services | Departments | Français
Library and Archives Canada
Canada
Search BAC-LAC.gc.ca
Search
Discover the Collection
Search the Collection
Services for the Public
Services and programs
Home
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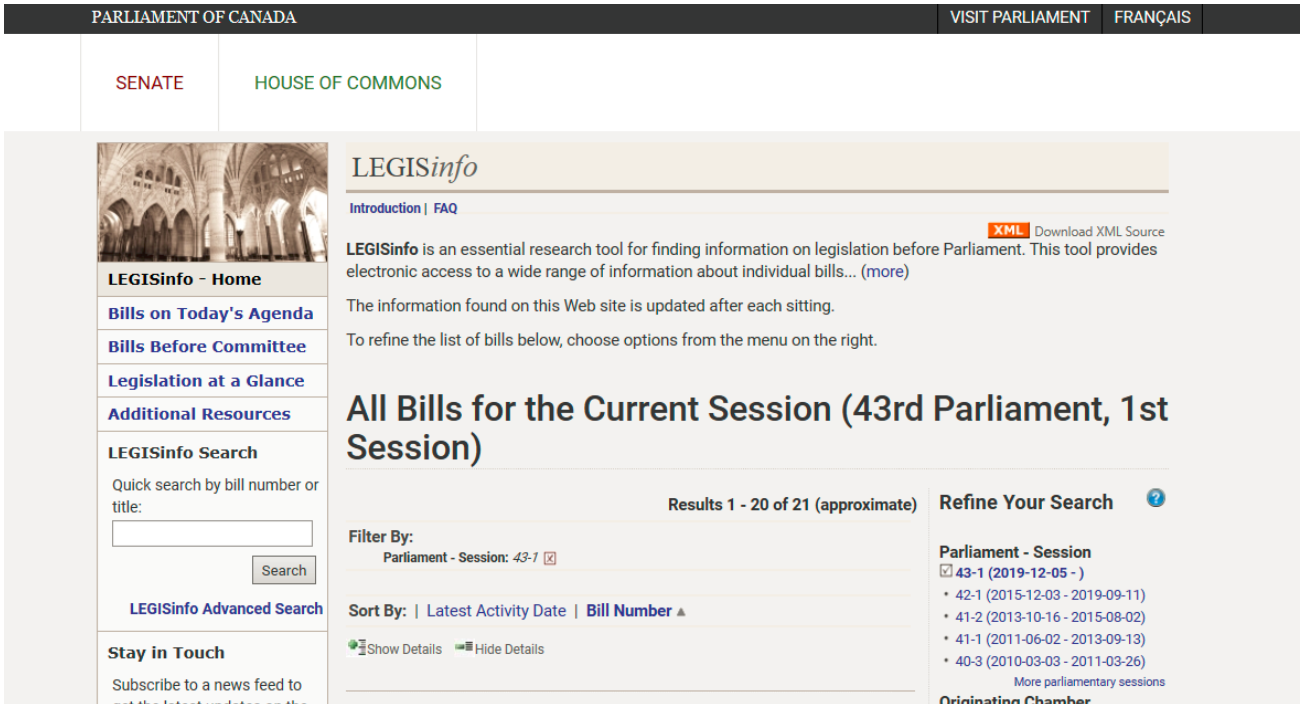
COVID-19 – Closures, cancellations and services
[2020-03-17 15:45]

Although there are fees for many documents, the Library & Archives Canada section can provide things that aren't available in your typical online search.

16. Check Out Old/New Legislation


PARLIAMENT OF CANADA
VISIT PARLIAMENT
FRANÇAIS
SENATE
HOUSE OF COMMONS
LEGISinfo
Introduction | FAQ
XML Download XML Source
LEGISinfo is an essential research tool for finding information on legislation before Parliament. This tool provides electronic access to a wide range of information about individual bills... (more)
The information found on this Web site is updated after each sitting.
To refine the list of bills below, choose options from the menu on the right.
LEGISinfo - Home
Bills on Today's Agenda
Bills Before Committee
Legislation at a Glance
Additional Resources
LEGISinfo Search
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Search
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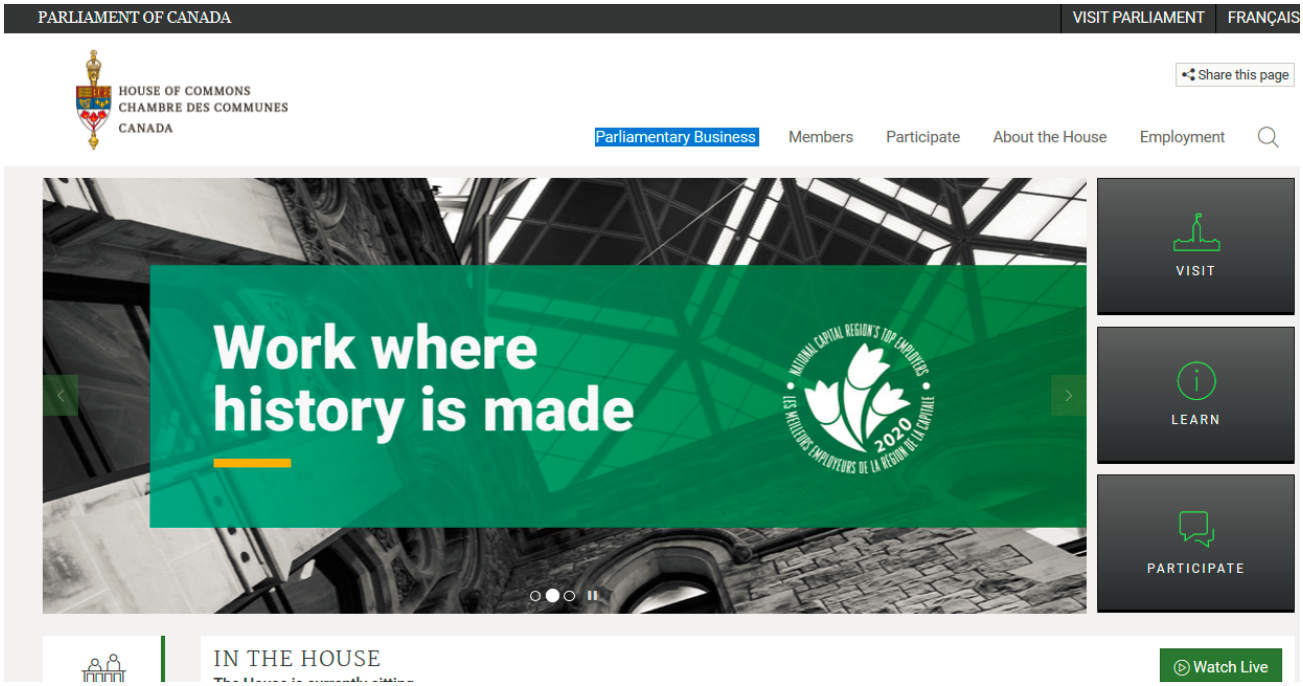
Subscribe to a news feed to
All Bills for the Current Session (43rd Parliament, 1st Session)
Results 1 - 20 of 21 (approximate)
Filter By:
Parliament - Session: 43-1
Sort By: | Latest Activity Date | Bill Number
Show Details
Hide Details
Refine Your Search
Parliament - Session
43-1 (2019-12-05 -)
42-1 (2015-12-03 - 2019-09-11)
41-2 (2013-10-16 - 2015-08-02)
41-1 (2011-06-02 - 2013-09-13)
40-3 (2010-03-03 - 2011-03-26)
More parliamentary sessions

Want to know what is actually written in a bill? Original filings, as well as amended bills are available to the public. For bills that are passed or defeated, the voting records of all Members of Parliament is recorded as well. To reiterate, though this piece focuses on Federal issues, the same applies Provincially.

Don't trust the media's interpretation of what a particular piece of legislation says. Go check it out for yourself. To quote Reagan: trust, but verify.

17. Other Parliamentary Studies/Reports

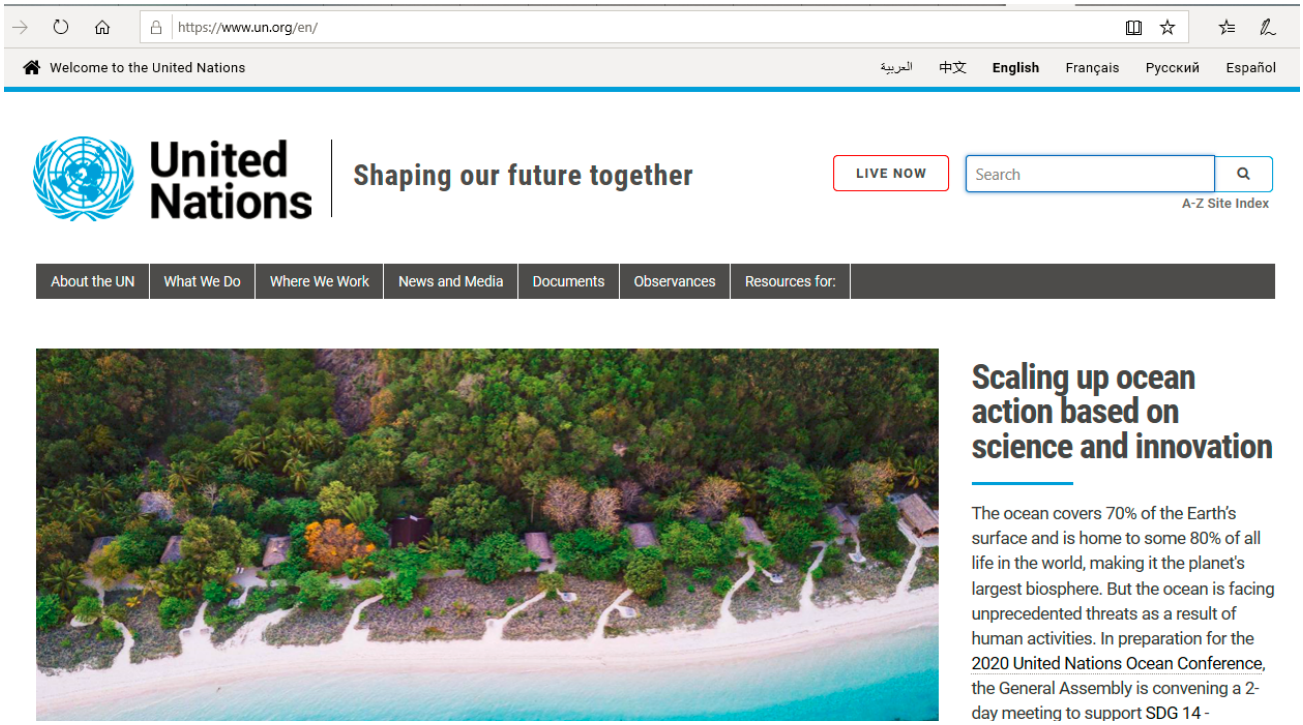


CLICK ON PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS.

It isn't just the bills themselves that go on. The MPs study the issues when they aren't busy grandstanding. As such, hearings take place, and witnesses are often called to testify. This concerns issues such as letting fake refugees into Canada, and Conservatives endorsing the UN Parliament. Indeed, a lot more detail can be found here than in the hearings and votes. Entire transcripts of hearings can be downloaded or copied.

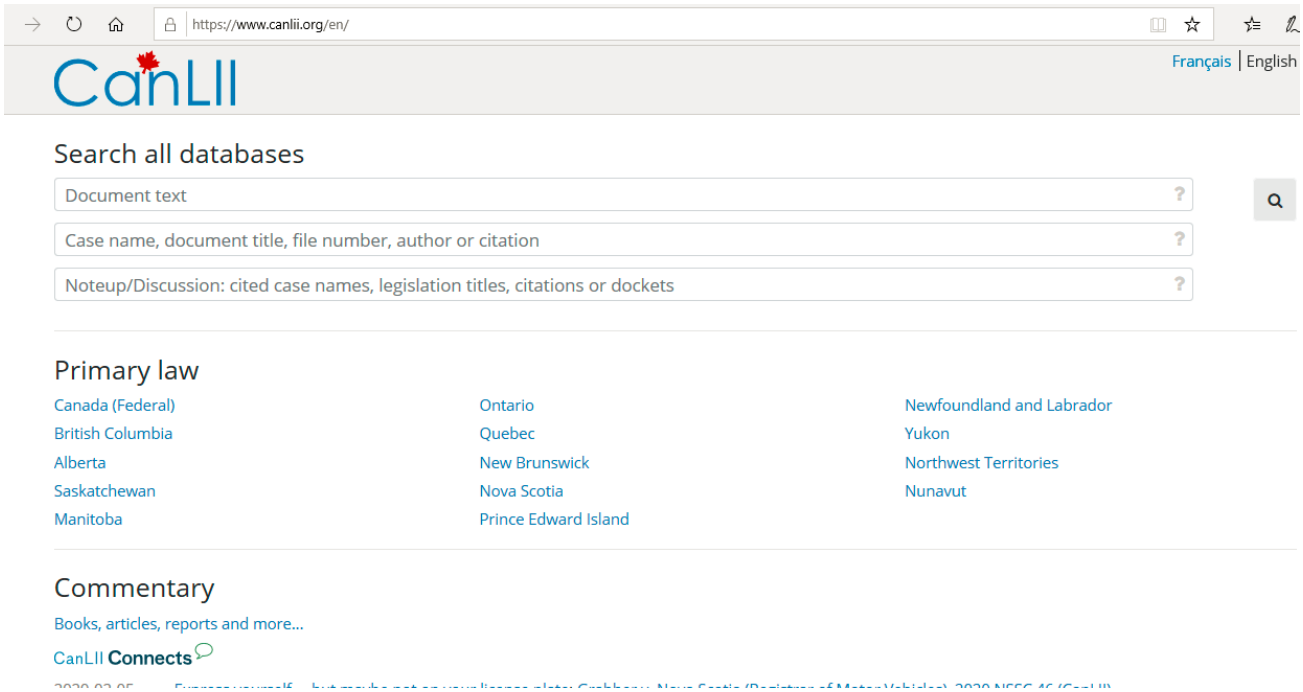
Also, please be aware, that http://parl.canadiana.ca/ also has more archived documents can be found. More and more is being scanned electronically and posted for all to see.

18. United Nations Search Engine


https://www.un.org/en/
Welcome to the United Nations
العربية 中文 English Français Русский Español
United Nations
Shaping our future together
LIVE NOW
Search
A-Z Site Index
About the UN
What We Do
Where We Work
News and Media
Documents
Observances
Resources for:
Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation
The ocean covers 70% of the Earth's surface and is home to some 80% of all life in the world, making it the planet's largest biosphere. But the ocean is facing unprecedented threats as a result of human activities. In preparation for the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference, the General Assembly is convening a 2-day meeting to support SDG 14 -

Want to know what is going on with UN globalism? Just go on the UN website and search. Although it's fairly easy to navigate, there is the search function is you can't find something. For example, typing "Islamophobia" nets about 600 results. Although there is a private access for members, most of what you need is open to the public.

19. CanLII, Court Searches



The good news is that major cases are listed. These include the Supreme Court of Canada, and Provincial Appellate Courts. Trial rulings “may” be listed if there is something particularly interesting or helpful, or if they are high profile. It covers criminal, civil, family, human rights tribunals, Law Society rulings, law review articles, and often motions. If one wants to self-represent in court, information available can be useful.

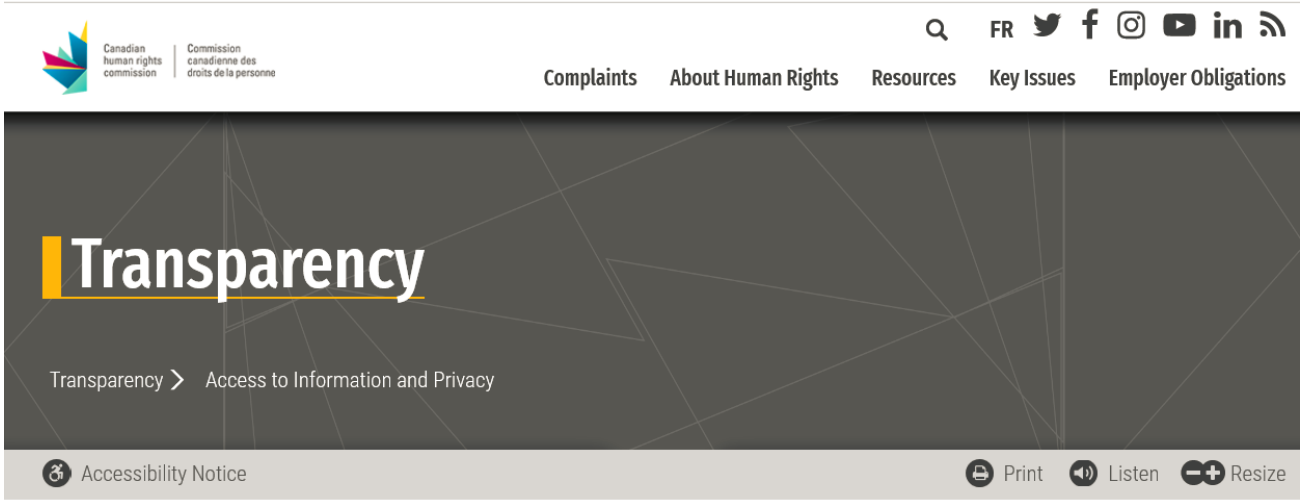
Bad news, is that the amount of information can be overwhelming. So many cases, and so many similar terms means that imprecise searches flood the user with useless hits. Even with the lower rulings usually not posted, the amount of information is mind boggling.

If you actually are looking for a court case, it’s a good tool. Otherwise, it’s not helpful in background information. An alternative (if you know what case you are looking for) is to contact the court and ask for certain documents. Also, some places, like Ontario, allow for searches of the status of cases in progress. You can tell if documents (like a defense) were ever filed.

20. Libraries Or Other Archives

Don’t knock it. If you have a large or older library in your town, or can get to one, you might be surprised what you can dig up. Often, older information is available in printed form that has not yet been digitized. For example, a library in my hometown still has microfilm on census data going back to the 1800s. If only it was readable.

21. Access To Information Requests



In most areas of government bureaucracy, there exists the option to file a formal request for information on certain topics. And it can be done across many departments. What sorts of things can you request?

- Documents posted, but not obviously found
- Records in possession, or an admission none exist
- Meetings, minutes
- Reports issued
- Amounts of money spent
- Other parties consulted

While seemingly a quick and easy way to get answers, let's mention a few disclaimers. First, the requests often take a long time, sometimes months to get back. Second, the government may withhold all or part claiming "public interest" or "confidentiality". Third, there are often fees involved. Still, it can be an option to consider.

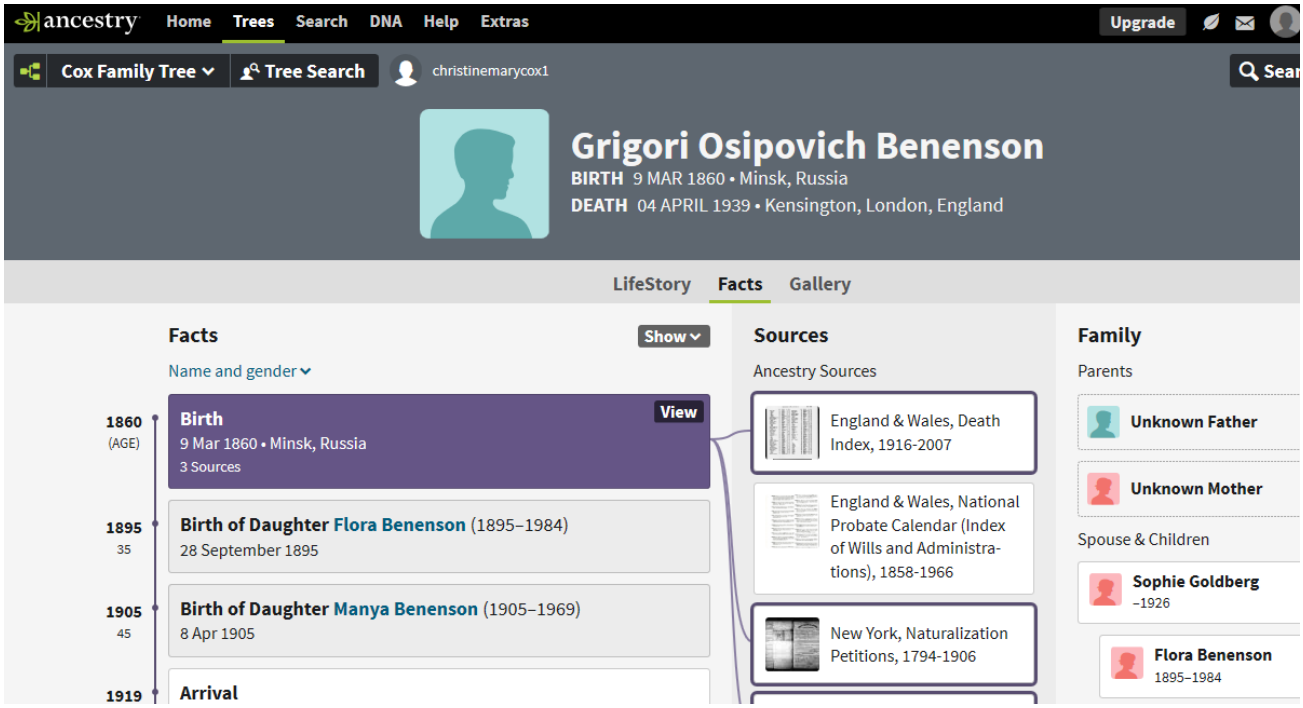
22. Interview The Subject

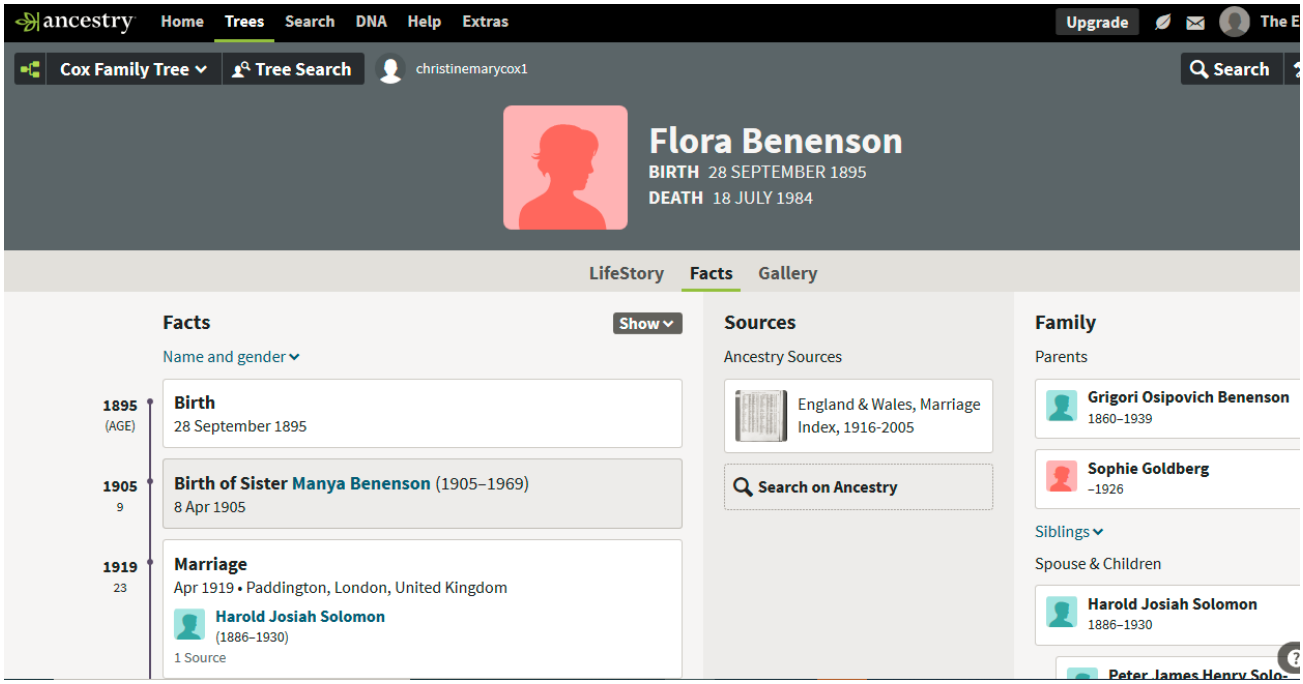
This is also known as "being a journalist". You ask a person questions in the hopes of getting information. Not everyone will say yes, but if you never ask the answer will always be no.

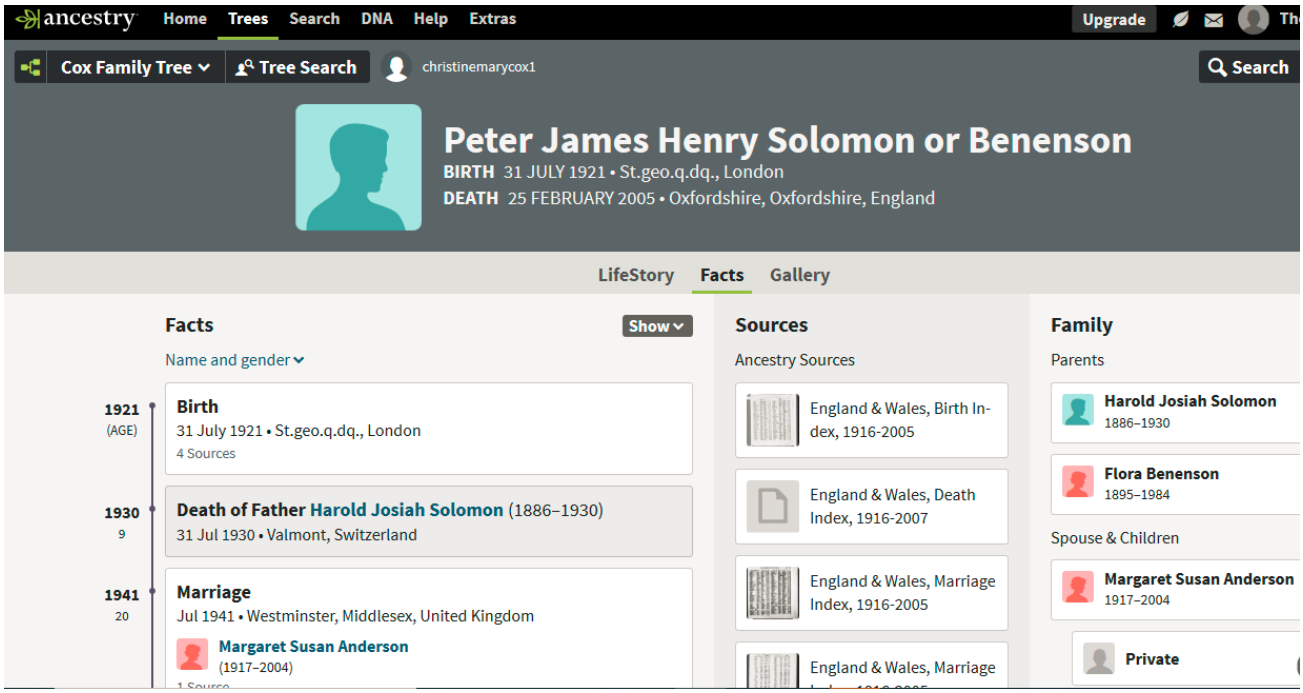
Question: do you let the person know who you really are, and if you are recording? Ideally, you should, but it depends on the circumstances. Having done a few sneaky ones myself, it would be hypocritical to pass judgement.

One piece of advice: it may be better to talk to the person ***AFTER*** you have done other forms of searching. This is so that you are more fully aware of your facts prior to meeting.

23. Ancestry Sites







Want to find out who is related to who? Although these databases are far from complete, they can give a good idea about extended familial relations you may not otherwise have known about.

24. What Have I done?

The items listed above have been used as source material for Canuck Law articles. Which

specific ones depend on the circumstances. All of these techniques are useful in conducting research for the writing. However, there is no one answer for everything.

25. What May Not Be Needed

Of course, this will depend on the people involved, and what information is being sought. Here are a few techniques I don't engage in, but that others have.

- Ambush journalism
- Stalking, following subjects
- Trying to get to family members
- Dumpster diving
- Trespassing, B&E

It is possible to get real results and real information without crossing ethical and legal lines. Suggestion: try not to cross lines where possible.

***SOLUTIONS*, CANADA, EDUCATION, FOI REQUEST, GLOBALISM, INTERVIEWS, LOBBYING, MEDIA, PROCEDURAL**